

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-*10 PA-04 RSC-01

*RS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 INT-08 SCEM-02 SCI-06 DRC-01

/227 W

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P R 022329Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2411

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

EC BRUSSELS

OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0015

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR AN ENERGY ACTION GROUP

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REF: (A) CAIRO 3997 (NOTAL)

(B) OTTAWA 3037

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF LETTER DATED DECEMBER 28, 1973, TO AMBASSADOR FROM MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MITCHELL SHARP, PROVIDING GOC REACTION TO SECRETARY'S ENERGY ACTION GROUP PROPOSAL.

BEGIN TEXT

EXCELLENCY,

I WAS GLAD TO RECEIVE MR. JOHNSON'S LETTER OF 14 DECEMBER ON THE SUBJECT OF THE PROPOSAL FOR AN "ENERGY ACTION GROUP", PUT FORWARD IN LONDON RECENTLY BY DR. KISSINGER.

YOU MAY HAVE SEEN PRESS REPORTS OF MY REACTION TO THE PROPOSAL, WHICH I UNDERSTAND MY DEPARTMENT DREW TO THE EMBASSY'S ATTENTION. I DESCRIBED DR. KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL AS A MOST CONSTRUCTIVE ONE AND SAID THAT OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO NOMINATE A CANADIAN TO PARTICIPATE. I REFERRED TO ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AS ONE AREA WHICH IN OUR VIEW HELD OUT PARTICULAR ATTRACTION FOR MULTILATERAL CO-OPERATION. I SAID ALSO THAT WE LOOKED FORWARD TO A MORE DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THIS AND OTHER PROPOSALS WITH OUR EUROPEAN, JAPANESE AND AMERICAN FRIENDS.

I WOULD ADD A FEW FURTHER COMMENTS TO THE ABOVE. FIRST, I THINK THAT SUCH A GROUP SHOULD BE BROAD ENOUGH TO ENCOMPASS THE MAJOR INTERESTED CONSUMING (AND PRODUCING) COUNTRIES OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD. I BELIEVE THAT THIS OBJECTIVE COULD BE ATTAINED WITHOUT MAKING THE GROUP UNWIELDY. SECONDLY, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT MEMBERS OF THE GROUP SHOULD BE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE POLICY THINKING OF THEIR NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO TRANSLATE AGREED RECOMMENDATIONS INTO EARLY ACTION. FINALLY, I AGREE THAT THE GROUP SHOULD GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT TO INVOLVING OTHER PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN PROJECTS THAT

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IT DEVISES, WHETHER IN THE FORM OF TWO-WAY INVESTMENT, TECHNOLOGICAL CO-OPERATION OR OTHER FORMS OF JOINT VENTURES WHICH WOULD ENSURE DEVELOPMENT TO THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, RATHER THAN APPEARING TO FORM A GROUP AIMED EXCLUSIVELY AT SOLVING THE SUPPLY PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES.

I WAS TOLD THAT DR. KISSINGER'S INITIATIVE WAS

WELCOMED BY MEMBERS OF THE HIGH LEVEL OIL GROUP OF THE
OECD WHICH MET IN PARIS THIS WEEK, AND THAT THERE WAS
A WILLINGNESS TO EXAMINE TOGETHER HOW THIS INITIATIVE
MIGHT BE CARRIED FORWARD. ENERGY, OF COURSE, FIGURES
AMONGST THE MATTERS WHICH I WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS WITH
DR. KISSINGER, AND WILL BE THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE
EARLIER TALKS WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE
BETWEEN MR. SIMON AND MR. MACDONALD. WE RECOGNIZE
THE NEED FOR PROMPT ACTION AND WOULD WELCOME EVEN
EARLIER TALKS AT THE OFFICIAL LEVEL IF THIS APPEARED
USEFUL; FOR EXAMPLE, A MEETING BETWEEN OUR OFFICIALS
AND MR. DONALDSON OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER
OFFICIALS INVOLVED ON THE U.S. SIDE IN OTTAWA (OR IN
WASHINGTON) DURING THE FIRST HALF OF JANUARY.

YOURS SINCERELY,

MITCHELL SHARP

END OF TEXT.
SCHMIDT

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NNN

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